

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-19. (Cancelled).

Please cancel claims 20, 21, and 26 without prejudice.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~as set forth in claim 21~~ comprising:  
establishing a set of occurrences of a physical event;  
determining a degree of association for each occurrence; and  
identifying a subset of the occurrences having a degree of association less than a  
predetermined value, wherein each occurrence includes an associated location and the  
degree of association represents a proximity between each occurrence and another  
occurrence.

23. (Previously Presented) A method, as set forth in claim 22, wherein the  
proximity is based on at least one reference location.

24. (Previously Presented) A method, as set forth in claim 23, the reference  
location being defined by a model of an at-risk population.

25. (Previously Presented) A method, as set forth in claim 24, the model  
representing the spatial-density of the at-risk population.

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~comprising: as set forth in claim 26~~  
establishing a set of occurrences of a physical event;  
determining a degree of association for each occurrence;  
identifying a subset of the occurrences having a degree of association less than a  
predetermined value, wherein each occurrence includes an associated location and each  
associated location is an estimate of the location of the occurrence; and,  
~~including the step of~~ modifying the estimate of the location of the occurrence as a  
function of the degree of association.

28. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~as set forth in claim 20~~ comprising:  
establishing a set of occurrences of a physical event;  
determining a degree of association for each occurrence; and  
identifying a subset of the occurrences having a degree of association less than a  
predetermined value, the physical event having a parameter, each occurrence having a  
value of the parameter, ~~the method further comprising the steps of:~~  
comparing the value of the parameter of each occurrence with a second  
predetermined value; and,  
including, in the subset, occurrences whose value of the parameter exceeds the  
second predetermined value.